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San Diego County Man Pleads Not Guilty to Hospital Assault

A Santee man accused of stabbing a woman at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center pleaded not guilty late Friday, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced today.

Thomas Robert Fredette (dob 1/2/76) was arraigned on one felony count of assault with a deadly weapon in case TA132970. The charging document includes a special allegation that the defendant personally inflicted great bodily injury upon the victim.

Fredette appeared before Judge Joel Wallenstein at the Los Angeles County Superior Court in Compton. His bail was set at \$60,000.

Prosecutors said on April 20 Fredette was at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center when he allegedly wandered into a room were a test was being administered. While there, Fredette reportedly grabbed several pencils from a desk and stabbed a woman that was taking a test in the ear.

A staff employee and hospital security heard the woman's screams. They came to her aid and held down the defendant until he was arrested by sheriff deputies.

Fredette's next court date is scheduled for May 9 to set a date for a preliminary hearing at the Compton courthouse in Department 10. If convicted as charged, Fredette faces a maximum sentence of seven years in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, County Services.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's OfficeLos Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.